

MINERS LIKELY TO ACCEPT NEW PROPOSAL TO END STRIKE; 14 PER CENT. RAISE AND SURVEY OF INDUSTRY OFFERED; U. S. AN UNION OFFICIALS GO TO INDIANAPOLIS FOR MEETING

WETS HOPE FOR VICTORY TO-DAY AT WASHINGTON

Supreme Court Decision on War Time Dry Act and Enforcement Expected.

BETS ARE BEING MADE

New York Dealers Are Preparing for Resumption of Business To-morrow.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The validity of the war time prohibition law may be decided to-morrow by the Supreme Court, in which event the country will get a final answer to its big question whether this will be a "wet" Christmas.

The court will reconvene at noon after a two weeks recess, and while there never is anything ahead of time to indicate what opinions might be handed down the impression prevailed generally that the constitutionality of the war time law and the Volstead act for its enforcement might be settled at the opening. Unless the court decides these cases before January 16 its opinion will have no effect, for the country will be dry when the constitutional amendment.

In view of the brief time intervening before constitutional prohibition becomes effective and the court's indicated desire to give early consideration to the question by advancing the opening of the court for argument, persons familiar with the court's procedure thought the decision probable.

After handing down decisions to-morrow the court will hear cases of importance during the week, including appeals from New Orleans and Baltimore, involving the right to manufacture beer containing more than one-half of one cent, under the war time prohibition act.

A rumor, emanating apparently from Washington, that a decision by the United States Supreme Court nullifying the war time prohibition act of November 21, 1918, and the more recent enforcement act is expected when the court meets to-day, was of thrilling interest to the liquor trade in this city. The optimism was based on nothing authoritative, since the United States Supreme Court is not in the habit of advertising its conclusions in advance, but it found many believers. Bets were made up town at even money that the dry laws would be declared invalid and that the country would be wet by to-morrow.

For several weeks there has been persistent a curious assurance on the part of the liquor interests in this city that they would get the relief they craved from the highest court, and preparations have been made to resume business at half-price, for cheap whiskey or gin. The export of wine has been booked in tremendous orders, one concern with 150,000 gallons of domestic wines having about filled its tanks.

The brewers stand ready to rush thousands of the pre-war 4½ per cent, or later 2.75 variety of beer to the 8,000 saloons of the five boroughs, and most of the restaurants and saloons have had orders in for whiskey and gin wholesalers for many weeks.

Advance price lists sent out by the native wine concerns indicate that the cost of claret, autumn, cherry and port will not be much greater than in pre-war days, running from \$2 to \$3 more a case for the inferior grades and from \$3 to \$5 more, a case for the better grades. There is little hope, however, for cheap whiskey or gin. The export of wine has been booked in tremendous orders, one concern with 150,000 gallons of domestic wines having about filled its tanks.

3,000 CARS READY TO CARRY WHISKEY

Kentucky Distillers Plan \$360,000,000 Shipment.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 7.—Standing on Kentucky 3,000 empty freight cars are being held in readiness to take out 36,500,000 gallons of whiskey, valued at \$360,000,000, in anticipation that the Supreme Court to-morrow will lift the prohibition ban. These cars will be loaded as fast as revenue stamps can be handed out at the Custom House.

Each train of whiskey will carry six heavily armed guards who will patrol on top of the cars while the train is en route to its destination.

Oswley Brown, chairman of the distillers committee, said that at least 92 per cent of the liquor would go out of the State if transportation facilities were at hand in the period up to January 16. Six special representatives of the United States Railroad Administration arrived to-night from Washington to superintend the loading.

Laborite Praises Lady Astor.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN and the Public Ledger.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—J. H. Thomas, a Labor member of the House of Commons, when asked what he thought of the new lady member replied: "Quite all right. We've had plenty of old women in the House as long as I have known it and now we've got a bonny young one in Lady Astor. I'd like to see more members like her."

FRENCH MOVE TO ACCEPT LEAGUE RESERVATIONS

Inspired Article Attributed to Foreign Office Urges Prompt Action.

JUSSERAND IS FAVORABLE

Formal Declaration Probably Would Induce Wilson to Yield to Senate.

By LAURENCE MILLS.
Staff Correspondent of THE SUN.
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PARIS, Dec. 7.—In a leading article obviously inspired by the French Foreign Office the Temps earnestly recommends that the American reservations be accepted forthwith, and asserts with more earnestness than before that there can be nothing objectionable to Europe in these reservations. Incidentally, in this connection, THE SUN knows that pressure is being brought to bear on the French Government to have Ambassador Jusserand formally declare France's willingness to accept these reservations, those exerting this pressure maintaining that only a formal assertion to this effect possibly can save the treaty.

Until now Ambassador Jusserand apparently merely has given it as his personal opinion that the reservations would not be objectionable, but a formal declaration is now being urged. This would have the effect, it is contended, of bringing President Wilson to accept them.

Certain influential Americans have informed the French that in their opinion this would be the present situation. The French point out that the Supreme Council allowed the Serbians yesterday to formulate reservations to the Austrian treaty and asks if anybody can admit that the Allies should hesitate between a question of mere form and the ratification of the treaty by the United States, which, it contends, is all that is needed.

After taking up the reservation against the Temps says: "It is pretended that the Senate reservations are a repetition of the work of the Paris Peace Conference. It is pretended that the United States thereby signified its unwillingness to concern itself with Europe on the peace treaty. To this wicked legend it is necessary to oppose the truth. Even if they require that the past of the League of Nations should be retouched in two or three places, which could be done under Article 14 of the United States Constitution, it contains nothing which would warrant the Allies in rejecting American ratification under these conditions. On the contrary, they contain certain wise reservations which it is to our interest to approve."

TO RENEW BELGIAN NEUTRALITY PACT

Striking Indication of Europe's Disbelief in League.

By a Staff Correspondent of THE SUN.
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PARIS, Dec. 7.—Europe is reverting more each day to her old system of equilibrium and guarantees as a mode of emphasizing the decision in Belgium's territorial integrity will be guaranteed only for a period of five years in order to give the league an opportunity to prove its usefulness as a substitute for military guarantees by a limited conflict.

As pointed out in THE SUN's despatch of November 23 Belgium is dissatisfied with the peace conference's decision in Belgium's territorial integrity will be guaranteed only for a period of five years in order to give the league an opportunity to prove its usefulness as a substitute for military guarantees by a limited conflict.

Every Tuesday morning THE SUN devotes two of its pages to SPECIALLY prepared matter regarding Canada. This includes not only letters and telegrams from competent correspondents in various centres of the Dominion but also articles of "Why Canada Launches Upon Nationalization"—being an explanation of the underlying causes that have influenced the Dominion to adopt public ownership of railways on the largest scale in history.

There will also appear in the Canadian Section of to-morrow's SUN "A Canadian Calendar," by John Murray Gibson of Montreal, as well as the customary up to date review of the Montreal and Toronto stock markets (by competent experts), New York-Canadian Personalities, etc.

New Peace Delegation May Replace Lersner

By the Associated Press.

BERLIN, Dec. 7.—The German Ministry has not yet reached a decision on the ratification question. Reports are current that Baron von Lersner and his peace delegates probably will be replaced by a new delegation comprising financiers, business men and leaders of the Hanseatic League, in addition to diplomats.

The Liberal Vossische Zeitung attacks the Government for its method of handling the situation and accuses it of trying to achieve through a rupture with the Entente what it has been unable to accomplish by negotiations.

NOSKE WILL NOT SIGN PROTOCOL

Defence Minister Says Entente Is Trying to Cripple Germany Completely.

LIMIT LONG AGO REACHED

Let Them Occupy Germany, He Says, Reviling Allies for Breaking Promises.

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Dec. 8 (Monday).—Gustav Noske, Minister of Defence, is determined not to sign the peace protocol handed Germany by the Entente and resolved to recommend that the Government adopt his attitude, come what may, according to an interview with Noske printed in Berlin.

"I cannot speak for the whole Government, because it has not yet come to a decision," said Noske, "but I shall recommend a refusal to sign the peace treaty protocol."

"The limit has long been reached. Let the Allies occupy the country if they like. The peace now presented to us is not peace, but a prolongation of the war. Nations would seek vengeance."

"Were such a treaty accepted, the German nation would rise up and avenge itself upon the man who signed it, and it would be right. Great Britain and France are deliberately planning the destruction of Germany. All the conditions I ever had in the pledges of the Allies is gone forever."

"By deceit and trickery the British and French Governments are working up opinion in their countries to cripple Germany still further beyond the crushing effect of the first treaty. We have yielded too often, and now must resist. Let the Allies do what they please."

Asked whether he would resign if the remainder of the Government decided to accept the allied terms, Noske replied that he could not say what he would do a week hence, but that his present position had been deliberately adopted and was unchangeable.

The correspondent in Berlin says that although Noske carefully emphasized that he was only defining his own position his words agreed with the intentions ascribed to the other members of the Cabinet.

Two drawings which Noske represents as having broken the back of German endurance, says the correspondent, are the demand for dock and harbor material and the protocol enjoining the Allies to enforce execution of the peace treaty.

Would Prevent Trade Revival.

The correspondent says that during his talk with Noske he suggested that if the Germans had not sunk the warships in the Scapa Flow the demand of the Allies for tugs and docks would not have been made. To this, he says, Noske replied:

"Oh, yes, they would. The British would have invented some pretext. Great Britain is out to cripple Germany and demands our land dredges and cranes so as to prevent the revival of our mercantile marine."

Noske repudiated the German Government's responsibility for the sinking of the warships in Scapa Flow and accused the British Government of publishing misleading and "faked" extracts of the letter of Rear Admiral Adolf von Trotha, chief of the German Admiralty, written to Admiral von Reuter, who sank the ships. Regarding the protocol, Noske said its signature would be giving Germany's assent in advance to unlimited future aggressions by the Allies.

"What more do you want?" said Noske. "You used to tell us if we chased away the Hohenzollerns peace would be adopted. And now you are breaking every pledge you gave. You have imposed upon us such a crushing peace that it could not have been worse if the Hohenzollerns had remained."

"The French doubtless will march into Germany. Let them come. The Allies know that Germany is without means of resistance. Allied officers are all over the country. Spies are shuffling about everywhere. All the scare talk about German armament is a deliberate press campaign to prepare public opinion for aggression."

Noske further hinted at a third objection Germany might raise to the signing of the protocol.

"If the United States stays out," he said, "the commissions established under the peace treaty will be taken over by the Allies. If that means more Frenchmen, it would be most injurious to German interests, and we should not agree."

Socialists Gain Five Seats.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—In the second balloting in the municipal elections to-day twenty United Socialists were elected, a gain of five seats.

FALL TO REVEAL MEXICAN PLOTS; WILSON SILENT

Public Will Learn All Details Through Speech to Be Made in Senate.

ACTION EXPECTED TO-DAY

Jenkins Case Secondary to Investigation Into Anti-American Activities.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Conferences and discussions of the Mexican crisis marked over Sunday developments in Washington. Senator Fall (N. M.) went over the situation with various of his colleagues and with representatives of political and business interests in Mexico. He said this evening that he had not received from the White House any response to the inquiries that had been addressed to President Wilson by the Foreign Relations Committee regarding his attitude toward Mexico.

The Foreign Relations Committee is scheduled to meet at 10:30 o'clock to-morrow morning. At that time, provided the President shall have sent his response to the committee, the whole matter will be taken up. But unless the President makes a definite response for action it is doubted whether any final action by the committee will be possible.

At the last meeting of the committee on Thursday and again at the conference of Republican members of the committee yesterday acute differences of opinion were demonstrated.

Want Whole Situation Bared.

It is desired that the public shall gain a better understanding of the whole Mexican background before Congress shall act upon it, if events do not move too rapidly to permit this. Matters will be ripe for a complete exposition in the next few days of the Mexican Government's reasons for continuing to antagonize the United States, it is believed.

For one thing: the attitude of the Carranza Government toward oil interests in Mexico is not understood generally in this country, it is declared, and some revelations are promised. Likewise there is high authority for the statement that when the whole matter is laid before the Senate in a public way the triangle of American-Mexican-Japanese relations will appear in a significant relation to the whole course of Mexican affairs in recent years.

American business interests in Mexico decidedly do not want war with that country," declared Senator Fall to-day. "They do want the assurance of a square deal and fair treatment; no more."

Much feeling has been generated in the Foreign Relations Committee incident to the recent considerations of Mexican matters. Senator Fall, by reason of intimate association with Mexican affairs for many years, is looked upon by the Senate as the best authority in that field. But he has not enjoyed the confidence of the Administration, and this fact has been responsible for much of the friction.

Get Better Understanding.

Recently the State Department has relied upon his assistance and counsel in a greater degree than ever before and relations between him on one side and Secretary Lansing and Ambassador Fletcher on the other have been established on a basis which, if it shall continue, is likely to insure a better understanding between executive and legislative departments. The cordial character of the interview between the Senator and the President last week likewise furnished ground for the hope that improved understanding will result.

The impression among people who have been concerned with the critical developments along and beyond the border is that President Wilson has believed that Senator Fall, and indeed most of the border State Senators, were anxious to have this country fight Mexico. That is not the attitude of Senator Fall, but quite the reverse, and those who know most about what transpired at the White House interview believe this fact was effectively impressed on the President's mind.

A settlement of American-Mexican relations is much more important than would be assumed from the consideration merely of the Jenkins incident. That story goes back to a period long before the war in Europe, and the Mexican embargo still continues an occasion of concern to people dealing with

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GARFIELD OFFER REPORTED TO BE BASIS OF TERMS

Indianapolis Thinks Miners May Get More Than 14 Per Cent. Eventually.

COAL PRICES TO GO UP

Wage Advance Beyond Old Mark Will Come From Consumers' Pockets.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 7.—Confidence that the reported agreement between leaders of the United Mine Workers of America and the representatives of the Government on terms to end the coal strike will be approved by the executive committee of the mine workers here to-morrow was expressed to-day by persons in close touch with the situation.

Coal dealers here in relation with operators in the East warned, however, against reports calculated to raise miners' hopes of any great wage increase. They declared on what was said to be good authority that the terms of settlement proposed by Attorney-General Palmer would not differ greatly from the earlier proposal of Dr. H. A. Garfield, United States Fuel Administrator, and that the wage increase offered would not exceed the 14 per cent suggested by Dr. Garfield. Any agreement entered into by John L. Lewis, acting president of the United Mine Workers of America, and William Green, secretary-treasurer of the miners, undoubtedly will be approved by the executive committee of the miners' union, according to Ellis Searles, editor of the Mine Workers Journal.

"If Mr. Green and Mr. Lewis have approved any proposal to end the suspension of activities in the mines, then the differences between miners and operators are as good as adjusted, as far as the miners' union is concerned," said Mr. Searles.

Little Known by Plan.

It is believed by Mr. Searles and others in touch with the situation that Mr. Lewis issued the call for the meeting of the mine workers' executive committee from Washington. The notice doubtless was telegraphed to each of the members. Federal officials in Indianapolis professed to have no knowledge of the nature of the proposal accepted by the miners' officials.

Henry B. Mitchell, assistant to the Attorney-General, who arrived here Friday to assist in preparing the Government's case in the contempt proceedings against the miners on Tuesday, to-day said that he had received no advice from Washington and declined to express any opinion as to what effect the agreement might have on the contempt proceedings. Mr. Mitchell, with Floyd J. Mattice, Assistant United States District Attorney, and Frederick Vannoy, who is to succeed L. Ert Slack as United States Attorney here, were in the city on Tuesday afternoon, however.

It is generally assumed that any of the number of possible solutions which may have been agreed upon to settle the twenty-day strike, an agreement that the Government will go before Judge Anderson in Federal Court to-morrow and request that the contempt proceedings against the leaders of the United Mine Workers be dismissed. The contempt hearing is set for 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, and the meeting of the miners for the acceptance of the proposal made to Mr. Green and Mr. Lewis is not scheduled until 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. It is thought possible, however, that the Government will safeguard itself against any possibility of non-acceptance of the agreement by merely petitioning that the hearing be postponed. If the agreement is accepted it will then ask the dismissal of the proceedings.

One Theory of Settlement.

The most plausible theory as to the nature of the settlement is that the mine leaders will agree to work at the 14 per cent increase on the word of the Government that the contempt proceedings will be dismissed. The wage scale again will be submitted to arbitration. On this theory, Dr. Garfield's offer of a 14 per cent increase without any increase in the selling price of coal, will be superseded probably by an agreement that a larger increase may be granted the miners, but only the increase in wages over and above the 14 per cent may be added to the selling price of coal.

It is also possible that the miners will agree to resume production at the old wage scale until a new wage scale is agreed upon, to be retroactive to the time the strike was called.

The proposed coal strike compromise will have no effect on the State's coal producing efforts, Mr. Clark asserted.

The receivers reported almost eight cars of coal were produced in the Linn county mines. They hope to have fourteen mines in operation to-morrow.

Reports to-night were that Gov. Henry J. Allen proposed to call a special session of the Legislature soon to frame a programme of labor legislation.

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GOV. ALLEN ASSERTS VOLUNTEER MINERS OUTWORK REGULARS

10,000 Kansans Eager to Dig Coal and Men at Work Show Patriotic Spirit—State's Production to Be Much Increased This Week.

By HENRY J. ALLEN, Governor of Kansas.

PITTSBURG, Kan., Dec. 7.—After witnessing for a week the efforts of volunteer miners to produce coal in Kansas I am impressed with the fact that the week has afforded as fine an exhibition of American patriotism as has been witnessed in peace or in war. Men have volunteered from every walk of life.

The list to-day of available men for the work is over 10,000, and the only complaint I hear is from those who cannot be used because of the limitations as to the number of men employed in the present operations. During all the week we have had a thousand men, divided into groups of about forty each, most of them living in tents, suffering all the inconveniences and discomforts that must arise from a hastily organized supply system.

It has both rained and snowed during the week, but the men have operated steadily, working in the mud without complaint and producing coal under weather conditions which if the regular miners had been employed would not have been produced at all. The output has increased steadily as the organization has grown stronger.

Domestic Coal Needs of Kansas Supplied.

During the week we have supplied thirty Kansas communities that were in need, and the coming week will give us an output which, before the week is over, will take care, I hope, of practically all the domestic emergencies. The greatest result of the week is the fact that we have convinced both the miners and the operators that the State is going to produce the coal.

When we started a week ago they were all sceptical. The miners had builded up a set of rules which provided that coal could be produced only under certain conditions at certain hours of the day in compliance with fixed regulations. Our volunteers have disregarded every rule and every regulation. They have mined coal from daylight to dark, producing at some mines from their awkward and patriotic efforts a larger tonnage than skilled labor has ever produced in those mines. At other places we have had disaster with machinery, flooding as the result of the rains and other obstacles, but these obstacles have not decreased the spirit of the men.

There are in the personnel a large number of ex-service men from overseas regiments, and they go about explaining to the other men how much like France this weather is. Their health remains good and their spirit increases. They are taking no sides in the controversy, with the broad-minded fairness of real Americans. They realize that both sides in this controversy are wrong and that they represent the one party in interest whose rights are always ignored in the labor quarrel—that's the public.

Strikers' Morale Drops in Face of Public Opinion.

The morale of the striking miners is decreasing exceedingly by the realization that unskilled labor can mine coal. They are also deeply affected by the almost unanimous attitude of public opinion which is against them, and there is evidence, particularly on the part of the American members of the union, that they would like to go back to work.

Next week we are opening up a number of new mines through the simple process of uncovering coal which lies near the surface.

In addition to the regular mining equipment of the district we are bringing into the situation a number of railroad grading crews, which are experienced in the rapid handling of dirt. By this simple and somewhat crude process we expect to secure a good many cars of coal. There is no reason why every coal State whose regular miners are out on a strike should not organize for the active operation of the mines by volunteer laborers.

There are a great many experienced miners in various sections of the country who are not related by union ties. These are now reporting and as rapidly as possible we are making replacement lists in order to give the men who wish permanent employment work in the field here and allowing the volunteers to go back to their regular occupations as soon as the permanent labor is adjusted to the situation.

KANSAS VOLUNTEERS DIG 27 CARS OF COAL TO STOP TO-MORROW

Record for a Day Is Made—Missouri Also Producing.

PITTSBURG, Kan., Dec. 7.—Twenty-seven carloads of coal were shipped from the mines operating under the Kansas receivership to-night, the record for a single day's shipment and an increase of twenty cars over yesterday's production. It was announced to-night by the State receivers. The total production up to Saturday night was sixty-two carloads.

HUNDREDS OF TRAINS TO STOP TO-MORROW

New York Largely Affected by Fuel Saving Order.

Hundreds of passenger trains will be temporarily discontinued at midnight to-morrow in accordance with a ruling of the Railroad Administration designed to meet the emergency caused by the coal strike. Parlor cars will be largely taken off. A settlement of the strike will not serve to cancel the order.

The New Haven road will discontinue 182 passenger trains. The Knickerbocker Limited, which leaves terminals at both ends at 1 o'clock in the afternoon; the 7:51 A. M. train from New York and the 7:45 A. M. train from Boston will not run. Many trains affected are locals and their discontinuance will cause express trains to stop at way stations. Fifty of the trains run only one day a week, Saturday or Sunday.

The Boston and Maine Railroad will discontinue seventy-seven trains. Nine are Sunday trains and the remainder are largely locals.

Several New York trains are among those to be discontinued by the Pennsylvania Railroad. It was announced in Philadelphia. These are the southern-bound trains to Washington, leaving New York at 8:38 A. M., 10:38 A. M., 2:04 P. M. and 2:38 P. M. Practically all parlor service between New York and Washington will be discontinued, and sleeping cars reaching Washington from the south during daylight hours will be taken from trains there.

The Boston and Albany Railroad will withdraw five trains, including the New England section of the Twentieth Century Limited, west and east. The train leaving Boston for New York at 9:15 A. M. will not run between Boston and Springfield and one leaving New York at the same hour will be discontinued.

The 5 o'clock train from Albany to Boston is also discontinued.

In the north, central and southwestern regions the order discontinuing trains was effective at midnight to-day.

In Canada a shortage of coal has caused the discontinuance of thirty-five trains, including the Canadian Pacific's transcontinental limited train.

Liberty Bonds—\$50, \$100, \$250, \$1,000—Can be bought and sold instantly. John Muir & Co., 61 Broadway.—Adn.

Settlement Terms Said to Obviate Abject Surrender by Either Side.

WORK TO BEGIN SOON

Miners Will Seek Calling Off of Injunction and All Prosecutions.

GARFIELD REMAINS FIRM

Report He Will Resign if Big Concessions Are Made at Meeting To-morrow.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—All principals in the soft coal strike controversy—Attorney-General Ames, John L. Lewis, acting president of the United Mine Workers of America, and William Green, secretary-treasurer of the miners—were on their way to Indianapolis to-night to seek a settlement of the strike which has beleaguered the nation.

The settlement proposal will be submitted to a general meeting of the national and district leaders of the mine workers at a meeting in Indianapolis on Tuesday afternoon as a proposition from the President of the United States. Officials in Washington hold every hope of acceptance of the proposal by the miners.

While the Government, it was learned, is not yielding any of the essentials upon which it has stood in the controversy, the proposal will save a surrender by either party to the controversy. It will be put up to the coal operators in due course, but for the present the issue is between the mine workers and the Government.

Assistant Attorney-General Ames is technically going to Indianapolis to prosecute the Government complaint of violating of the strike injunction by the leaders of the mine workers. As a matter of fact, he will have a hand in the attempt at settlement, and one of the considerations of acceptance of the proposal by the miners is a calling off of the court action, the injunction and all prosecutions.

Miners' Leaders Optimistic.

Acting President Lewis and Secretary-Treasurer Green of the mine workers started for Indianapolis at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Their last word was that they would urge acceptance of the proposal for settlement which will be presented to the meeting of officers by the Attorney-General of the United States, acting for the President.

The Attorney-General, Assistant Attorney-General Ames and Robert Scott, private secretary to the Attorney-General, departed at 4 o'clock. The settlement proposal they are taking with them calls for complete adjudication of all matters in dispute. It is expected that the miners will accept the principal proposals of the Government, upon which officials have insisted there would be no surrender.

Other matters will be taken up by a commission or tribunal named by the President, which will also give consideration to the major issues. The strike, however, is to be immediately called off on the premise of the statement of Dr. Harry A. Garfield, the Fuel Administrator, made to the joint conference of miners and operators here November 26.

So far as can be learned the Government attitude that the wage increase is justified and that the operators can pay it is not changed. This means definitely that if the miners return to work it will be upon this pay basis, but with the hope that the adjudicating body will consider this among the other questions and make recommendations.

There have been many rumors that the new proposal was engineered by Secretary of Labor Wilson and that it calls for recession from the constantly reiterated Government declarations. Rumor also has it that this is so unsatisfactory to Dr. Garfield that he is ready to quit if any surrender is made.

Officials refuse to make any comment in this connection. Dr. Garfield stated to-day that his position had not changed one iota from what it was when he made his announcement to the joint conference with the backing of the Cabinet. He would make no other statement and official comment was refused on every hand.

Approve the New Proposal.

It is significant that the new proposal has the approval of Attorney-General Palmer, Director-General of Railroads Hines and the Fuel Administrator. They have been most largely responsible for the firm stand taken by the Government in handling the strike situation, and their ideas with respect to adding increased coal costs on the public have never varied.

Though official Washington is optimistic over the situation, close Government control of all fuel supplies and distribution in strict accordance with the priority list will be maintained. There will be no let up, it was stated to-day, even in the event of peace in the coal fields. The supply of coal is so far behind normal demands that